

# LOUISIANA'S OLD STATE CAPITOL

Museum of Political History



## Exhibit Guide

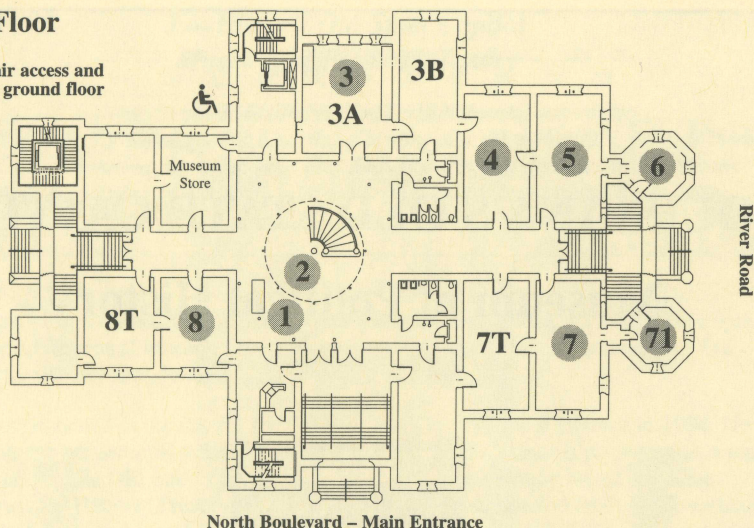


Jay Dardenne  
Secretary of State



## First Floor

Wheelchair access and  
elevator - ground floor



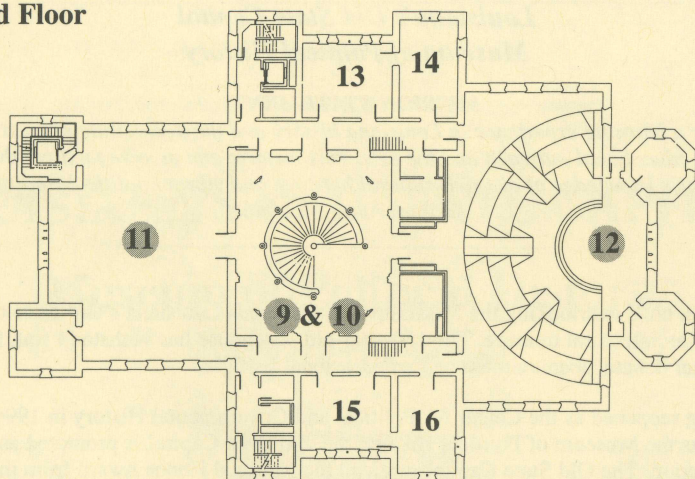
North Boulevard - Main Entrance

1. **Admissions Desk**
2. **Welcome and Brief History of the Old State Capitol**  
#21 More History
3. **Governors' Suite of Offices** (Sponsored by Louisiana Public Facilities Authority - LPFA)
  - A. **Governors of Louisiana** See and hear the governors who have served our great state and feel the excitement as you become a popular politician addressing the House of Representatives.
  - B. **Governor's Office** Featuring different Louisiana governors, first ladies and furniture and artifacts from the period. (See Insert)
4. **National Representation Exhibit** (Sponsored by Exxon)  
Meet former and current Louisiana congressional leaders. You can also view political commercials highlighting Louisiana congressional candidates.
5. **"Huey Long Live! The Kingfish Speaks" Animatronic**  
Experience Huey as he "comes alive" at the Old State Capitol. Here you will meet the infamous "Kingfish" and marvel at this one-of-a-kind experience.
6. **Huey Long Assassination Exhibit** (Sponsored by Uniroyal & Copolymer)  
Learn all the facts and then decide - is there a continuing controversy? See the gun allegedly used to assassinate Governor Huey Long.
7. **Statehouses of Louisiana** (Sponsored by the Old State Capitol Associates)  
Have you lived in a capital city? Many cities in Louisiana have served as capital. Learn more about them and then share your favorite Old State Capitol experience at our Storytelling Stations.
71. **Statehouses of Louisiana**  
#72 Architectural Interests      #73 Fence
- 7T. **1882 Treasurer's Office for Temporary Exhibits** (Sponsorship is available)  
(See Insert)

*Note: Highlighted numbers correspond to audio tour.  
Also available in French, German and Spanish.*



## Second Floor



### 8. Louisiana Purchase Exhibit *(Sponsored by Georgia Pacific)*

See the documents that doubled the size of the United States and recognize the states that were later carved out of the territory. "Let the land rejoice, for you have bought Louisiana for a song." – General Horatio Gates

### 8T. 1882 Agricultural Department for Temporary Exhibits

*(Sponsored by Freeport-McMoran) (See Insert)*

### 9. 2nd Floor Rotunda

### 10. 2nd Floor Exhibit Theme

### 11. 1882 Senate Chamber *(Sponsored by 1994 Louisiana State Senate)*

Travel back in time as you enter the chamber where the debates continued from the House Chamber on interesting and important legislation.

### 12. 1882 House Chamber *(Lodwick M. Cook Education Auditorium)*

"Politics in Louisiana...the Story Is Here"

### 13. We the People... *(Sponsored by the Shell Oil Company Foundation)*

Learn how you are affected by the laws passed in your state and "become" an elected official, commissioner or activist.

### 14. We the People... *(Sponsored by Charles and Douglas Manship)*

Connect to your legislators by committing to become involved in the political process. Meet individuals who have truly made a difference in our society.

### 15. We the People... *(Sponsored by Chevron Corporation)*

Experience campaigning firsthand. Watch as a political story unfolds and learn how to make informed decisions. Take the opportunity to film your own political "on-air" speech.

### 16. We the People... *(Sponsorship is available)*

Vote! You have a decision to make. Will your attitude stop you from participating or will you overcome obstacles to reach your final destination – the voting booth?

*Thank you for your interest and support of this historic facility.*

*Please come back and visit us again!*



# ***Louisiana's Old State Capitol Museum of Political History***

## ***MISSION STATEMENT***

*To provide a learning experience in Louisiana history and the democratic process through exhibitions, educational outreach and the arts. This historic and diverse facility advances the visitor's knowledge of our rich cultural heritage and vibrant political tradition.*

*Adopted April 30, 1996*

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**H**igh on a bluff overlooking the Mississippi River stands Louisiana's Old State Capitol, a Gothic architectural treasure. The 150-year-old statehouse has withstood war, fire, scandal, bitter debate, abandonment and an occasional fistfight.

The building reopened as the Center for Political and Governmental History in 1994. Now referred to as the Museum of Political History, the Old State Capitol is promoted as a major tourist attraction. The Old State Capitol received the National Honor Award from the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the Award of Commendation from the American Association of State and Local History for the Louisiana Purchase Exhibit, the Award for Excellence in Architectural Design from the American Institute for Architects, the Southeastern Museums Conference Curators Exhibition Award for 2002 for the "We the People..." exhibit, and in April of 2004 became accredited by the American Association of Museums.

### ***Look inside the capitol for:***

- *Unique blend of Gothic and Victorian architecture, 1850 and 1882*
- *Faux-bois and gold leafing throughout the building*
- *Cast iron staircase*
- *Stained glass windows in the House and Senate chambers*
- *Cathedral dome*
- *Black and white fossilized marble floors*
- *Magnificent replica chandeliers in the House and Senate chambers*
- *Intricate brass hardware on the doors*

### ***Look on the grounds for:***

- *1885 cast iron fence encompassing the 5-acre grounds*
- *The tomb of Confederate Governor Henry Watkins Allen*
- *"Merci Train" – a gift of a WWI railroad boxcar given to each state after WWII by France*
- *A rare Ginkgo tree, said to be one of the first of its kind brought to America*

## **HOURS**

Tuesday through Saturday: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Sunday: Noon to 4 p.m.

Open Mondays for special tours

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